Amendment to the Drawings

Kindly amend FIGS. 1, 2a, and 2b by substituting the versions appearing behind Tab A for those originally filed. Applicants have revised these figures solely to add the legend "PRIOR ART" as requested by the Examiner.

Response

A. Introduction

Claims 1-13 remain pending in the application. The Examiner has objected to the specification, drawings, and abstract of the application, requesting changes be made to each. He also proposes non-substantive change to claim 1 and has required Applicants to elect one of the following species of invention for continued prosecution:

Species A:

Figs. 3a-b and 4 (claims 1-7 and 12-13);

Species B:

Fig. 5 (claims 8-9); and

Species C:

Fig. 6 (claims 8-11).

According to the Examiner, claims 1-7 and 12-13 are generic to all species.

B. Revisions

In response to the Examiner's objections, Applicants have revised the specification, drawings, and abstract as the Examiner suggests. Applicants additionally have modified claim 1 in the manner proposed by the Examiner.

Applicants accordingly request that all of the Examiner's objections be withdrawn.

C. Election of Species

Applicants elect Species B for continued prosecution and hence request examination of (at least) claims 1-9 and 12-13. Applicants believe, however, that the Examiner has erred in interpreting Figs. 3-6 and request reconsideration of the election requirement. In particular, Figs. 3a-b and 4 disclose the generic inventionand thus not any particular species—consistent with the Examiner's designation of claims 1-7 and 12-13 as generic to all species. Moreover, the embodiments of Figs.